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ABSTRACT

This paper provides a synoptic review of student health services at the community college level while giving a more detailed description of the nature of health services at Orchard Ridge, a campus of Oakland Community College. The present College Health Service program provides for a part-time (24 hrs./wk.) nurse at Orchard Ridge. A variety of health services are available, which in the past have included TB testing of faculty, staff, and students, Health Clinic Days, cardio-pulmonary resuscitation demonstrations, pap smears, and a blood drive. All were provided at no cost to students and members of the community as a result of cooperation with community agencies. Additionally, the nurse was involved in numerous other activities ranging from participation in the County of Oakland Association for Continued Health Education to providing several types of assistance to handicapped students. In the future, major thrusts of the program will continue to be health education and prevention while handling first-aid emergencies and making referrals. A Student Health Services statistical report and a table listing additional activities of the nurse are appended. (JDS)

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INSTITUTIONAL REPORTS

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STUDENT HEALTH SERVICES AT ORCHARD RIDGE

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OCC

OAKLAND
COMMUNITY
COLLEGE

JC 760 441

Prepared by the Offices of the
Dean of Administrative Services
and the
Dean of Students

STUDENT HEALTH SERVICES AT ORCHARD RIDGE
September, 1976

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Student Health Services at Orchard Ridge

When health is absent:
wisdom cannot reveal itself,
art cannot become manifest,
strength cannot fight,
wealth becomes useless, and
intelligence cannot be applied.

Herophilus, c. 300 B.C.

Preface

Because poor health of any kind detracts from academic success, the health of students at Orchard Ridge is a concern of faculty, administrators, and staff. Over the years, accidents, emergencies, illness, and socio-emotional traumas have had some impact on the normal work day of many members of the Orchard Ridge community. Those faculty, students, and staff who have been intimately involved with persons experiencing health difficulties surely wonder how the campus health program compares with other institutions of higher education across the country.

The purpose of this report is to define the parameters of student health services at public community colleges and present data on the local Orchard Ridge experience and progress.

The Community College Environment

The magnitude of the two-year college movement is seen in 1975 enrollment figures provided by the American Association of Community Colleges: there were 4,069,279 students attending 1,230 public and private institutions.

Responsibility for student health services typically falls within the domain of Student Personnel areas at the community colleges. The expansion of services has been necessitated by the open-door admissions policy which permits some students with academic, physical, and socio-emotional handicaps to enroll. The presence of these students has put emphasis on the health service function of the student personnel program.

> The basic objective of the health service is to maintain and improve the health of students, especially as it relates to their educational achievement.[1]

In its statement on the health rights and responsibilities of members of the college community, the American College Health Association gives further amplification of the above definition:

> One of the basic rights of all members of the community is for access to the development and maintenance of optimum health. Health is a facilitating resource for the institution's educational and social goals; without it the institution's effectiveness may be compromised severely.[2]

In an attempt to develop boundaries for a college's involvement with the health factor, various related functions have been defined:

> THE HEALTH APPRAISAL FUNCTION. Those activities of the college designed to produce a systematic and periodic health and physical appraisal of students. Illustrated Assignments: designing health appraisal

forms...reviewing health appraisals to identify special problems ...etc. Canvas of health and physical condition, review of health records, health counseling, establishment of referral system, apprising parents, and other systematic and periodic checks on the health and physical well-being of students made possible by the employment of a public health nurse.

THE HEALTH EDUCATIVE FUNCTION. Those activities of the college designed (1) to acquaint students and staff with appropriate health and safety practices, (2) to provide adequate procedures for handling resources which can be used to treat physical and emotional problems. Illustrated Assignments: distributing health and safety materials... teaching first aid procedures...etc.

THE HEALTH CLINICAL FUNCTION. Those activities of the college designed to provide clinical assistance and treatment on campus for students experiencing physical ailment and/or emotional difficulties. Illustrated assignments: maintaining an infirmary...dispensing medication under supervision of a physician...conducting psychotherapy...etc.[3]

The implementation of these functions have led to services which usually include (1) individual health guidance and health appraisal procedures, (2) health protection (prevention and care of emergency illness, injury, communicable disease, and encouragement of healthful environment), and (3) working with others in the college and in the community to attain health education objectives.

These services are similar to those defined by Lovett who includes such essential services as first aid and emergency care on campus, referral resource for illness, chest X-rays and other preventative measures, and a resource for health counseling and health education.[4]

While much has been written about the need for health services, relatively little is being done at most public community colleges. This was confirmed by a national study of 1,926 college trustees, presidents, deans, and student leaders at 482 institutions in 1972. Among the findings were: (1) less than one-half of the colleges have health service programs; (2) very few health personnel are available on campus, with nurses being most common; (3) little provision was made for regular or continuous medical care of students; (4) a majority of the college leaders perceived their institutions having limited or non-existent student health services; and (5) few community colleges are providing opportunities for treatment or solution of health-related social problems as part of their health service program.[5]

Health Services at Orchard Ridge

With the opening of Orchard Ridge in 1967, the College's established procedures for handling the health problems of students continued. These included the posting of emergency guidelines, the promotion of health education through various academic departments, the handling of first aid problems by administrators, and the referral of students with more serious conditions to family physicians and local emergency facilities. The rationale for these College procedures was based on the facts of a non-residential, commuting student body and the belief that primary health care is the responsibility of the student's parents. Of equal importance were the limited college budgets and the

low priority of student health service. This latter point reflects the common position of other public two-year colleges across the country.

In the Fall of 1969 a part-time nurse was hired to coordinate health service activities and spend some hours at Orchard Ridge. The position became more solidified as a result of the collective bargaining process between the College and the Faculty. The 1970 Master Labor agreement contained this clause:

> Article 3.23-A well-equipped area will be provided on each campus where illness and injuries which occur on the College premises can be adequately treated. The College shall maintain the service of a full-time nurse. Clearly defined procedures to guide all staff in the handling of emergencies shall be provided by the campus Provost.

Interest in Orchard Ridge health service was intensified in March, 1971 when two pipe bombs exploded in C Building. Fortunately the room was unoccupied and no injuries occurred. Four non-Oakland Community College students were subsequently charged with the crime and one was sentenced to Marquette Prison.

During the same period, student protest demonstrations, resulting in injuries dramatized the need for having a nurse on campus. This period also revealed a high percentage of drug experimentation, overdose, and generally wide-spread substance abuse.

The present College Health Service program provides for a part-time college-wide coordinator and for part-time nurses at each campus. Monies for the expansion of services became available when an administrative decision raised the College Application fee from $10 to $12.

Presently the Orchard Ridge nurse works a 24 hour week over a four-day week. Located in M Building, the health facility includes a nurse's office, clerical support room, rest area with cot, and adjoining restroom.

Service to Students, Faculty, Staff

The variety of health services provided at Orchard Ridge can be seen by reviewing the nurse's activities during the 1975-76 academic year:

1. Mass T.B. testing of faculty and staff: 265 tested, 47 of which were students, to insure all personnel free from active tuberculosis.

2. Health Clinic Days on Campus:

   Cardio-Pulmonary Resuscitation - Held on February 25, to demonstrate CPR procedures and show a film. It was also made possible for the students to receive their certification.

   Pap Smears - Free Pap Tests made available through the Michigan Cancer Foundation on April 1, 1976, for cancer detection. The results were mailed to their family doctor.

   Blood Drive - On February 19, the American Red Cross sponsored a blood drive on our campus. During this blood drive 94 pints of blood were donated.

   All the above Health Programs were provided at no cost to the students and members of the community in cooperation with community agencies.

3. Active participation with the Play Center in an advisory capacity.

4. Active participation in the County of Oakland Association for Continued Health Education.

5. At the beginning of the Fall Semester the Emergency Procedures Guidelines were evaluated and sent to all faculty and staff members to facilitate prompt attention to medical problems and provide good medical care.

6. All First-Aid Kits on campus assessed and restocked as needed monthly.

7. Parking permits were issued to 131 people throughout the year, 38 tokens, and 23 elevator keys were also issued.

8. Students with specific health problems were seen and first-aid information given to Security, in the Form of small index cards with pertinent information.

9. Participation in Career Days and Orientation Sessions by the nurse.

10. Letters were sent to all students who were issued parking cards, explaining where they can and cannot park.

11. Throughout the year, assistance was provided for handicapped students to and from classes, with their meals and with tests for their classes.

12. Statistics have been kept for each semester. The following statistics cover September 1975 through June 1976.

Students seen	1,191
T.B. tests	270
Accidents and Injury	43
Referrals and Information given	165
First-Aid and Treatment	445
Health Counseling	263
Medical Parking (permits and tokens)	188
Elevator Keys	23
Emergency sent to hospital and home	16

For comparison purposes, the volume of nurse contacts with students at each campus is included in Table I. Some of the deverse activities of the Colleges nurses are included in Table II.

Because of the continuing necessity of status quo budgeting, it appears that there will be little expanion of student health services in the near future. While students and faculty have rquested additional availablility for day and evening hours at Orchard Ridge, this is not presently possible.

The Orchard Ridge community should be aware that the existing programs is comparable to or better than most at public two-year institutions. Major thrusts of the program will continue to be health education and prevention while handling first aid type emergencies and referring to more complex services off-campus.

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1. Alice Thurston, Lynne Norrie, and Joan Venable, "Health Services: Who Needs Them?" Junior College Journal, 40 (February, 1970), p. 34

2. American College Health Association, Statement on Health Rights and Responsibilities of Members of the College Community (Evanston, Illinois: American College Health Association, 1970), p. 2.

3. Charles C. Collins, Junior College Student Personnel Programs: What They Are and What They Should Be (Washington, D.C.: American Association of Junior Colleges, 1967), p. 14.

4. E. D. Lovett, "Community College Health Services," California Medicine, Vol. 115, No. 5 (November, 1971), p. 67.

5. Donald D. Nichols, "Some Recent Data on Community College Health Service Programs," Journal of the American College Health Association, Vol. 22, No. 1 (October, 1973), p. 61.

STUDENT HEALTH SERVICES REPORT
Oakland Community College

Table I

	75-76	74-75	73-74
Injury and Accident Reports Filed with Campus Nurse			
Auburn Hills	22	19	17
Highland Lakes	5	3	12
Orchard Ridge	43	22	78
Southeast Campus	7	17	4
Health Referrals			
Auburn Hills	56	67	57
Highland Lakes	9	20	21
Orchard Ridge	128	161	142
Southeast Campus	18	22	20
Medical Evaluation for Parking Permits and/or Elevator Keys			
Auburn Hills	69	51	49
Highland Lakes	64	60	52
Orchard Ridge	238	222	185
Southeast Campus	3	No Facilities Available	
Emergency Cases Sent to Hospital, Clinic, or Home			
Auburn Hills	8	5	12
Highland Lakes	3	3	3
Orchard Ridge	16	22	28
Southeast Campus	4	2	2
Health Counseling by Campus Nurse			
Auburn Hills	103	70	57
Highland Lakes	10	30	34
Orchard Ridge	263	299	119
Southeast Campus	30	64	32

	75-76	74-75	73-74
Follow-up letters to Students with Health Problems			
Auburn Hills	124	0	0
Highland Lakes	59	0	0
Orchard Ridge	410	0	0
First-Aid Treatment Administered by Campus Nurse			
Auburn Hills	226	125	88
Highland Lakes	80	55	30
Orchard Ridge	445	350	204
Southeast Campus	76	60	33
Tuberculosis Screening Tests			
Auburn Hills	160	116	187
Highland Lakes	175	156	64
Orchard Ridge	270	270	278
Southeast Campus	196	60	41
Cancer Clinic Day (Free Pap Smears done by Campus Nurses with Michigan Cancer Foundation equipment)			
Auburn Hills	28	45	29
Highland Lakes	49	83	26
Orchard Ridge	64	105	40
Southeast Campus	18	52	47
Heart Clinic Day (Cardio-Pulmonary Resusitation Demonstration and Practice			
Auburn Hills	0	0	30
Highland Lakes	22	38	16
Orchard Ridge	0	40	38
Southeast Campus	15	16	15
Veneral Disease Clinic Day			
Auburn Hills	0	185	65
Highland Lakes	0	snow	60
Orchard Ridge	0	snow	54
Southeast Campus	0	snow	10

	75-76	74-75	73-74
Respiratory Disease Clinic Day			
Auburn Hills		Not Scheduled	15
Highland Lakes		Not Scheduled	10
Orchard Ridge		Not Scheduled	25
Southeast Campus		Not Scheduled	14

ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES - Table II

1. Reviewed Campus Emergency Procedure with Dean of Students on each campus.
2. Helped staff First Aid Center for Gaslight Festival for Orchard Ridge.
3. Assisted with taking blood pressure for Physical Fitness Class.
4. Conducted question and answer session following Emergency Childbirth film for First Aid Class.
5. Health-O-Rama Day held at Orchard Ridge--panel discussion child abuse adult diabetes; child safety; menopause. Screening tests done for Sickle Cell Anemia, blood pressures, and diabetes.
6. Student health forms reviewed and follow-up letters sent on all campuses.
7. The contents of all the first-aid kits were assessed and restocked as needed.
8. Participation by Campus Nurses and Coordinator in Career Days and orientation programs.
9. All Campus Nurses and the Coordinator continue to act in an advisory capacity to the Child Care Centers.
10. Assisted the Red Cross with the Blood Bank donations at Southeast Campus.
11. Campus Nurses functioned in an advisory capacity to faculty and counselors with reference to students in need of special health considerations; for example: epileptic students, paraplegic students, diabetic students, etc.
12. Contributed health related articles to Student Bulletins.

13. Administered allergy injections to students and faculty.

14. Program on "Crib Death" held at Highland Lakes - in conjunction with the Michigan International Guild for Infant Survival.

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